

I-House— cultivating international friendship



by Sara Schwieder

Sara Schwieder, a Daily Nebraskan staff writer, is a senior majoring in journalism.

A French foreign student once said American food tasted like cement dust to him. And while Greek people think English sounds like a cow with post-nasal drip, Indian students sometimes complain of "cardboard clothing."

Add to these a climate exhibiting the best qualities of hell in summer and the Polar Ice Cap in winter and you might understand the difficulties a foreign student encounters on his arrival in Nebraska.

Strange circumstances greet a foreign student on any campus, but rarely is there a place that can offer any real assistance.

International House, located in the UNL Women's Residence Hall, has done an excellent job accommodating foreign students and making a comfortable niche in Nebraska for them.

Many kinds of programs are offered, among which are folk dancing on Sunday afternoons, seminars on world situations, slide shows of foreign students' homelands, evening "language tables" in the Cather-Pound cafeteria and an informal physical setting in which residents—American and foreign—can gather and socialize.

Working with the International House staff is a very active "Overseas Opportunities Center" offering travel and study information as well as inspiration to those who want to see the world.

ASUN can take a bow for providing I-House with a \$1,000 grant last year that funded most of the programs. It was one of the most worthwhile things ASUN did all year.

ASUN's money benefits American students as well as foreign students. International House director Mike Eyster said I-House is as much for Americans as foreign students. "We want to make Americans give up some of their Americanisms and really understand foreign cultures."

"The best thing about I-House," Overseas Opportunities Director Zoya Zeman said a few days ago "is that when foreign students move out of I-House, they move in with Americans." Remembering old clannishness before I-House, this indeed is welcome news.

If the man who said "cultures which see no farther than themselves bear the seeds of their own destruction" is right, the United States will have a veritable truck farm to harvest. But even if the nation isn't doing so well, at least UNL has made an effort to cultivate friends instead of enemies.

staff suggestion box



to the editor

Dear editor,

For the past week or so, the Daily Nebraskan has encouraged all of us to check "yes," add \$3.50 to our tuition payment, and thereby contribute to the worthwhile project, PACE.

Excuse me, if I've been caught napping, but so far, I've not heard or read a complete and concise definition of what PACE is. Specifically, where does my \$3.50 go, and who benefits by it? Nothing was mentioned in the circular included with my tuition statement other than the procedure for contributing. No one, that I asked, could give me a straight answer about PACE either.

I did not add \$3.50 to my payment for that reason. It is a poor habit to give to something you know nothing about. If PACE is truly as worthwhile as the Daily Nebraskan says, I regret not contributing and will do so next time. If it was explained and I missed it, I am sorry. But surely the facts about something as wonderful as PACE has been made out to be, bear repeating. So please, for my benefit and for new students, could you tell us what PACE is?

Julia Schroeder

Editor's note: According to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids PACE funds are awarded exclusively to low-income students. PACE grants differ from others in that students with the greatest need who are eligible for federal grants won't normally receive PACE funds. PACE will be used for those who don't qualify for grants but who may be unable to attend without financial assistance.

Parking, continued . . .

Dear editor,

Today I found on my motorcycle a parking ticket for an offense for which I can hardly believe I am being prosecuted. The ticket (no. C132383) was given to me for not parking my motorcycle in a parallel manner in a zone. No consideration was given to the fact that no part of my motorcycle was protruding any farther into the street than the fender of a parallel parked car would be. By parking my motorcycle perpendicular to the curb I was hoping to help alleviate some of the parking problem

by parking in such a way that a car or six to 10 other motorcycles could park in what would normally be a one car space.

However, I have done all that I could to help alleviate the parking problem. If you, the police force, continue to interpret the law about parallel parking in such a strict manner, I and my motorcycling friends will be forced to take up an entire parking space apiece. I hope that you realize what the ramifications of such an action would be, especially on campus and downtown.

Ken Wiseman

Construction funding

Dear editor,

Regarding your Wednesday front page story and editorial: the real problem regarding fire hazards in University buildings is not, as George Miller suggests, a lack of upkeep funds, but rather the consistent inability (or unwillingness) of the University to provide an adequate capital construction program for basic academic facilities over the last seven years.

Recent history indicates that those projects with good political support, for example field houses and law colleges, get funded, while projects with far greater impact on the daily life and education of 20,000 students, such as the library addition, the proposed life sciences building, or a replacement for Temple, either get cut drastically or moved so far down on the University's priority list that their chances of funding are negligible.

This situation, with its attendant fire hazards, is likely to continue until the administration and regents take a solid stand in support of basic academic facilities which affect the lives of literally thousands of undergraduates.

John Janovy, Jr.
Associate Professor of Zoology

Rotten Rag?

Dear editor,

Last Friday's edition of the Daily Nebraskan didn't impress me as being up to par with previous editions of this semester's campus newspaper.

Being a journalism major, I read your publication with great interest, and it disturbs me when I find fundamental errors in a newspaper whose staff has exhibited journalistic responsibility in the past.

Unfortunately, both mistakes appeared on front page. One was the poor quality photograph, both in

reproduction and content, of Patti Kaminski. Since a variety of variables are involved, ranging from lack of copy to last-second deadlines, some sympathy may be in order.

Tragic is the second error, since there is no excuse for it being overlooked, and since it can be traced to an individual editor. I am referring to the article "Bugs Plague Campaign Machinery". What destroyed a well written and documented news analysis was the last paragraph. The paragraph in question stretched the boundaries of reason past their breaking point, by rationalizing that successful politicians should not admit mistakes from the results of a Gallup poll.

I am now to assume that the election is over, since the only way one can prove a politician is successful is if he wins an election. Or perhaps the Daily Nebraskan staff considers Richard Nixon an all-around successful guy.

Looking from another point of view, perhaps the Daily Nebraskan staff likes George McGovern, since he is noble by admitting his mistakes. Of course the mistakes he has admitted did not appear in the article, either

because they were never written down, or because it might show political bias (a no-no in anything except an editorial or letter to the editor).

My point is that the last paragraph biased the entire article by drawing a speculation from unrelated evidence. The net effect was a personal opinion, something that belongs on the editorial page.

You cannot put the blame on the author, because any article appearing outside of the editorial page is the staff's responsibility. Initially, the editorial page is included in the paper's responsibility if any material printed is libelous in nature.)

In the opinion of this reader, the Daily Nebraskan's dignity would return if errors, such as the one I described in detail, would no longer appear in the future.

Bruce McMorris

Editor's note: The poor reproduction quality of the photo mentioned was caused by a printer's error, not by an oversight of the Daily Nebraskan staff. The article mentioned was labeled "Opinion analysis by the author."



Dear Mrs. Nixon and Julie:
I appreciate your offer to give your lives
to defend the South Vietnamese. Unfortunately,
it comes too late to save my son who . . .